

## What are invasive non-native species?

Non-native species are plants and animals that are not normally found in Britain and have been introduced by people. Some of these are invasive and harm our environment and native wildlife, interfere with paddling, and cost the economy nearly £1.9 billion a year. Below are a few examples of their impacts.

Invasive plants block waterways preventing paddling



Aggressive invasive shrimps attack and kill native species including fish eggs

Crayfish burrow into river banks causing severe bank erosion



Tiny invasive mussels form dense colonies which can cover the underside of boats and clog propellers

# STOP THE SPREAD

Find out more about invasive plants and animals and how you can help to stop the spread at:

[nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry](https://nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry)

Twitter icon @CheckCleanDryGB

Scan QR code on your mobile



Funded by the Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership

Photos from Mal Grey; Trevor Renals; David Aldridge, Cambridge University; and the Environment Agency.



## Paddling abroad?

Invasive plants and animals block waterways and harm the environment

Find out how you can help

CHECK

CLEAN

DRY

**Invasive non-native plants and animals harm the environment and block waterways and can easily be spread on your boat, clothing and equipment.**

Protect the environment and activities you enjoy by following three simple steps whenever you leave the water.

## CHECK

### ON SITE

Check boats, equipment and clothing after leaving the water for mud, aquatic animals or plant material.

Remove anything you find and leave it at the water body.

## CLEAN

### ON SITE

*(If washdown facilities are available)*  
Clean everything thoroughly, ideally in water from the hot tap (take care)

### OFF SITE

*(If washdown facilities are not available on site)*  
Clean everything thoroughly as soon as you can, ideally in water from the hot tap (take care)

## DRY

### ON SITE

Drain water from every part of your boat and dry with a sponge or towel before leaving the site.

### OFF SITE

Dry everything thoroughly for as long as you can before using it elsewhere, ideally for 48 hours.

Ready for your next paddling trip

If you've been abroad it's even more important to do this before visiting a waterbody at home, so you don't introduce new invasive plants or animals.

Pay particular attention to the inside of your boat and areas that are damp and hard to access

